

In reference to objections raised by those in opposition to the expansion of LPFM, I offer the following thoughts.

At a time when the commission's deliberations pivot on a variety of issues relative to media and democracy, (including questions of localism, media consolidation, broadcast diversity, and responsible use of the public airwaves) I implore the commission to enhance the unique opportunity LPFM represents to facilitate community communication across the country.

LPFM provides precisely the sort of locally oriented, socially relevant broadcasting that is so hard to find these days. LPFM encourages communities to work together and realize broadcasting's unique potential to air disparate views and opinions, share relevant news and information, and create and distribute cultural programming that reflects the particular and distinctive needs and interests of local constituents.

Rather than treat the American people as little more than consumers, LPFM acknowledges the civic function of broadcasting and encourages broadcasting as a social practice, not merely a business enterprise.

Please expand LPFM and allow communities across this land to reclaim the public airwaves in the public interest! Thanks!